

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 13 are pending. Claims 14 to 17 are cancelled without prejudice to presentation in a divisional application. No claims are allowed.

Claims 1 to 8 have been amended to call for (1) the specific holder with a negative bias and with an insulating shield surrounding the holder; and (2) the cap of the holder in the plasma as shown in Figures 9A and 9B and as described on page 31, line 18 to page 35 line 18. It is this construction which provides the unique diamond films on epitaxial iridium of the present invention described in the specification.

Claims 1 to 4, 6, 8 to 10 and 12 were rejected as unpatentable over Hormann et al (Diamond and Related Materials 9, 256-261 (2000)) in view of Kobayashi et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,743,957). The enclosed Declaration Under 37 CFR 1.132 shows that this combination of references cannot produce the previously claimed invention of amended Claims 1 to 13. Reconsideration of this rejection is requested. This combination of references cannot produce the claimed

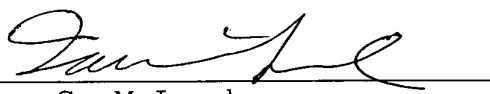
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invention. The results achieved as shown by the Declaration Under 37 CFR 1.132 are not suggested by this combination of references.

Claims 5, 7, 11 and 13 were rejected as being improper under 37 CFR 1.75(c) cited MPEP 608.01(n). These claims do not depend upon a multiple dependent claim and thus are acceptable claims. Should the Examiner want them reworded in a particular manner, the Applicants are agreeable.

It is now believed that Claims 1, 3 to 8 and 10 to 13 are in condition for allowance. Notice of Allowance is requested.

Respectfully,


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Enclosure: Declaration under 37 CFR 1.132